

## Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 PA-03

RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 EB-11 COME-00 RSR-01 /053 W

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R 090854 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1320

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EO 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRN, TH

SUBJ: SHIPPING- SATTAPHI GETS KRIS SIVARA' S SUPPORT

1. BANGKOK POST AND MIN. OF COMMERCE' S DAILY TRADE NEWS MARCH 9 QUOTES MINISTER OF INDUSTRY GEN. KRIS SIVARA AS FAVORING SATTAPHI OVER LAEM CHABANG FOR THE SITE FOR THAILAND' S SECOND DEEP- SEA COMM-  
ERCIAL PORT FOR " ECONOMIC REASONS". REASONS ADVANCED BY GEN. KRIS ARE " WATERS IN LAEM CHABANG AREA ARE NOT DEEP ENOUGH AND NOT VIABLE AS DEEP- SEA PORT... PIER HAS TO BE BUILT SEVERAL KILOMETERS INTO SEA IN ORDER TO HARBOR SHIPS- AND THAT MEANS MORE BUDGET TO SPEND". ALSO, KRIS SAID PROJECTED RAIL ROUTE WILL LINK SATTAPHI WITH CENTRAL PROVINCES AND " LAEM CHABANG HAS NO SUCH FACILITIES".
2. CONCERNING THAI NAVY OPPOSITION TO COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS AT SATTAPHI ON SECURITY GROUNDS, GEN. KRIS IS ALLEGED TO HAVE " NOTED " THAT, INSTEAD OF POSING THREAT TO NAVY, COMMERCIAL SHIPS COULD BE VERY USEFUL AND NAVY COULD ACT AS THEIR PROTECTOR.
3. GEN. KRIS CONCLUDED, " HOWEVER, THERE IS NO DECISION YET FROM GOVERNMENT WHETHER DEEP- SEA PORT IN LAEM CHABANG OR SATTAPHI WILL BE CONSTRUCTED".
4. COMMENT: KRIS SIVARA' S REMARKS FOLLOW BY ONE MONTH PUBLIC STATEMENTS IN SUPPORT OF LAEM CHABANG BY MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS GEN. PUNNAKANTA WHOSE MINISTRY  
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THEORETICALLY HAS JURISDICTION OVER MATTER. MOREOVER,  
HIS COMMENTS FOLLOW BY JUST TWO DAYS FRONT- PAGE POST  
TREATMENT OF SATTAHIP- DANANG- ROUTE 9 STUDY WHICH SUPPORTS  
DEVELOPMENT OF SATTAHIP AS COMMERCIAL PORT. AN AMERICAN  
COMPANY, SEA- LAND SERVICES, INC., WHICH PROVIDES CONTAINER  
SERVICES THROUGH SATTAHIP FOR THE US MILITARY,  
HAS REQUESTED RTG APPROVAL TO INITIATE COMMERCIAL EXPORT  
OPERATIONS THROUGH SATTAHIP BUT HAS NOT YET RECEIVED A  
REPLY.  
UNGER

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 MAR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** martinjw  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 04 DEC 2001  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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**Subject:** SHIPPING- SATTAP GETS KRIS SIVARA' S SUPPORT  
**TAGS:** ETRN, TH  
**To:** EA  
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